

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Andrea D. Branch, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/719,277
(US National stage of PCT/US99/12929)

I.A. Filing Date: June 9, 1999
Filing Date: April 13, 2001

For: *Novel Hepatitis C Virus Peptides and Uses Thereof*

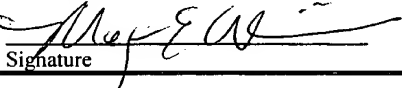
Attorney Docket No.: RII-003CPUS

Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: D. Wortman

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 354 227 227 US Deposit September 8, 2003
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Signature

Megan E. Williams
Please Print Name of Person Signing

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE
AUGUST 21, 2003 INTERVIEW

Dear Sir:

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephonic interview that took place on 21 August, 2003 between Applicants' Attorney, Megan Williams, and Examiner D. Wortman.

In the interview all of the pending claims were discussed. The Examiner indicated that claims limited to detection methods involving HCV core +1 reading frame polypeptides might be allowable. No agreement was reached with respect to allowable subject matter during the interview. Examiner Wortman further indicated that she would issue a written action in the case.

CONCLUSION

If a telephone conversation with applicant's attorney would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the examiner is urged to call applicant's attorney at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,



Megan E. Williams
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Attorney for Applicants

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Dated: September 8, 2003